

I just must say that, although we are still weary about what finally results, Democrats can take a great deal of pride in the provisions with regard to kids' health care with the coverage now for the child tax credit, with the education tax credits, and with so many of the other things that we have been talking about all along that should be included in this tax cut package and in this spending bill to make sure that the benefits go to the average working American.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2266, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 105-213) on the resolution (H.Res. 198) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2266) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2264, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a report (Rept. No. 105-214) on the resolution (H. Res. 199) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2264) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered printed.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CUBA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. DIAZ-BALART] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

DOW JONES AVERAGE UP SINCE REPUBLICANS TOOK CONTROL OF CONGRESS

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I wish, before I begin speaking about the subject that brings me to the well this evening, to insert into the RECORD a note made available to us here in Congress today by our dear colleague, the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. DUNCAN].

Mr. Duncan points out, among other things, that the Dow Jones Industrial Average, on Election Day 1994, when the Republicans took the majority in this House and in Congress, both

Houses, for the first time in 40 years, was 3,830 points. And since Republicans took control of Congress, the Dow Jones Average has gone up by more than 4,000 points, breaking all records. And that that was due, to a great degree, because of the fact that the majority here, the Republicans, brought the leadership to the Congress to bring Federal spending under control and stop the growth of taxes and regulations and that, finally, the belief took hold in the economy and in the world in this international economy of today that the United States of America would finally balance its budget.

And, so, I think that that is something that was important to bring out. And I thank the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. DUNCAN] for having done so. So I would like to insert the following into the RECORD, if I could, Mr. Speaker:

The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at 3830.74 on election day, 1994.

Since Republicans took control of Congress, the Dow Jones average has gone up by more than 4,000 points—mainly thanks to Republican success in bringing Federal spending under control and stopping the growth of taxes and regulations.

Mr. Speaker, I come this evening to the floor, to the well, to discuss a matter that for the last 4 months has worried me on a daily basis in increased fashion. It has been typical of the tyrant in Cuba, who has ruled for 38 long and destructive and painful and extraordinarily gruesome years, it has been typical for him to engage in Stalinist crackdowns. But for the last 4 months, he has been clearly engaged in another such Stalinist crackdown the effects of which have come to my attention on a daily basis.

And, so, I have been thinking it appropriate for some time now to come to the well to give an update to my colleagues and to the American people through C-SPAN, the millions of citizens who watch through television, by way of television, an update on the dreadful human rights situation and the details, as I know them, of that Stalinist crackdown engaged in by the tyrant of Havana, only 90 miles away from the United States.

And, so, I would like to read a list, and I acknowledge from the beginning that it is a partial list, of human rights violations in Cuba for the last 4 months. And with that acknowledgment, I would like to begin to get into it and then discuss some other aspects of the reality of Cuba today.

March 29, a Danish tourist, there have been a number of incidents recently with tourists in Cuba where the government has shown, the regime has shown its paranoia and its apprehension about its security situation as it has related to tourists, a Danish tourist, Joachim Loevschall, somehow mistakenly wandered into a restricted military zone and he was shot to death. That was March 29.

Then began the month of April. And Ramon Rodriguez, father of a well-

known activist, Nestor Rodriguez, president of Young People for Democracy, was arrested.

Also, on April 1, Rafael Ibarra Rogue, president of the Democratic Party 30 November, Frank Pais, who is currently serving a sentence of 20 years in the infamous prison known as Kilo 8, according to relatives, was told that he would be denied from having any contact with his family or any religious visits. That was April 1.

April 8, Nestor Rodriguez Lobaina, president of Youth for Democracy, a group that has become more well-known recently and has developed already a number of very impressive young leaders, Youth for Democracy, president Nestor Rodriguez Lobaina was arrested and charged with "crimes against the state." He had previously been arrested in June 1996 and sentenced to 12 months in prison and an additional 6 months of internal exile for the crimes of resistance to authorities and disrespect of the revolution. He was sentenced to 18 months in April and is currently being held in the Guantanamo Prison.

Today, July 28, Nestor Rodriguez Lobaina has begun a hunger strike that he has announced will last during the days that something called the 14th World Festival of Youth and Students lasts. That festival has begun also today in Havana. It is a splurge that Castro gives to Communists who come from throughout the world to party in Cuba, young Communists, while the Cuban people are subjected to the apartheid system and the rationing cards that have been imposed upon the people since 1962.

So Nestor Rodriguez Lobaina says that during the duration of this party, called the 14th World Festival of Youth and Students, he, as a youth leader, is going to fast in protest.

Of course, he and Cuban students who want to speak out in favor of democracy are not allowed to participate in that youth movement festival in that party that Castro organizes with funds that the Cuban people are denied for international young Communists and revelers and partiers.

□ 2215

April 11. Miguel Angel Aldana, member of the Executive Committee of the Concilio Cubano and president of the Martian Civic League, arrived in the United States after being forcefully expelled from Cuba. He was initially handcuffed, dragged out, and arrested while attending a mass in memory of the Brothers to the Rescue pilots who were shot down by the Cuban Air Force on February 24, 1996.

April 22. Israel Feliciano Garcia, representative of the Democratic Solidarity Party in the Province of Villa Clara was arrested in his home. His wife Arelis Reyes Garcia was also detained for pointing out to the police that they did not have a warrant.

April 30. Radames Garcia de la Vega, vice president of Youth for Democracy,